# Project 184 Weekly Update Website: www.project184.org

Summary of Environmental Planning and Compliance Activities For Project 184 Week Ending March 5, 2004

Our New Toll Free Project 184 information number is now working. **The new number** is 1-(866)-776-5184 or 1-(866)-project184. This will give you the real time data we have all been looking for.

## Lake Aloha Dam Maintenance and Telemetry Station Project

District and EN2 Resources staff met on March 3 to review a detailed schedule of actions for completing the environmental review and design processes and implementing the dam maintenance and telemetry station installation beginning August 2004.

# **Canal Bench Restoration Project**

As part of the SWRCB 401 Certification and Corps of Engineers NWP requirements for the Canal Bench Restoration Project, EN2 Resources prepared a draft revegetation plan for the five intermittent streams crossed by the Canal bench. After the District completes its review of the draft, the plan will be finalized and submitted to the USFS for approval and a first option to implement the plan. If the USFS chooses not to perform the revegetation, then the District will seek bids for completing the plantings in either late fall 2004 or spring 2005.

# **Canal Slope Stability Analysis**

EID has contracted with Carlton Engineering to commence this analysis.

#### **Camp 2 'Short-Cut Road' Rehabilitation**

EN2 Resources submitted a revised suggested work plan for agency consultation, permitting and restoration of the Camp 2 Short-Cut Road based on District consultations with the Forest Service.

#### Mill to Bull Tunnel

District, Owen Engineering, and EN2 Resources representatives met on March 3 to discuss the schedule, actions, and priorities for permitting, final design, and reconstruction of Spillway 20 at the Bull Portal. Advance ordering of the spill gates and completion of the permitting process by July were identified as critical path activities to accomplish reconstruction in 2004. Owen Engineering is proceeding with order preparation for the spill gates and EN2 Resources is drafting the District's CEQA documentation requirements.

The District provided a written response and supporting information to SWRCB Accounting Office Demands for Payment and Notices of Violation for failure to pay two invoices pertaining to Mill to Bull Tunnel NPDES permits that had been terminated in 2002 and 2003 and should not have been invoiced.

# **Project 184 Powerhouse Painting**

District and EN2 Resources consulted on a work plan and began agency contacts regarding permitting and agency coordination requirements for exterior Powerhouse painting scheduled for summer or fall 2004.

# **Echo Conduit System Modifications and Repairs**

District and EN2 Resources staff met on March 3 to review a detailed schedule for the proposed automated valve, spillway regulating valve, and conduit system repairs. After considering the scope of work activities and consulting with M. Korkowski, the District has decided to proceed with the automated valve for the pipeline and a temporary regulating device on the spillway in 2004, and then design and install a permanent regulating device on the spillway and perform the major conduit system repairs in 2005.

#### **Diversion Structure**

Mead & Hunt completed the sediment surveys at the Canal intake facility, prior to spring runoff.

#### **Project 184 Relicensing Support**

EN2 Resources prepared a revised, suggested letter to FERC that provides a comprehensive list of studies, engineering design, and construction actions that the District is implementing in 2004 and 2005 to meet its obligations under the Relicensing Settlement Agreement and to complete ongoing Mill to Bull Tunnel construction activities.

#### **2004 Project 184 Planned CIP Projects**:

- ➤ Hazel Creek Tunnel
- ➤ Lake Aloha Telemetry/Dam Repairs
- ➤ Spillway 20
- > Camp 2 Shortcut Road
- ➤ Mill- Bull Bore Hole
- ➤ Silver Lake Spillway Automation
- ➤ Echo Lake Outlet Valve Automation/Spillway Valve
- ➤ Slide Repairs Flume 6&7, and Camp 2 Road
- > Special Use Permit/ Road Work
- ➤ New Canal SCADA Alarms
- ➤ Install Weather Station (2)
- Replace Flume 52
- ➤ Rebuild Spillway Chutes

- Engineering For Flumes 31, 49-50 Concrete Flume
- ➤ Engineering Echo Conduit and Tunnel Repairs
- > Replacement of Deer Fencing Beat one
- Fence Camp 5

# Ecological Resources Committee meeting planned for April 27th, 2004 Meeting

EID held is scheduled ERC meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The next ERC meeting is scheduled for April 27, at 0900. Final meeting minutes will be circulated to all parties this week.

### \*Akin Powerhouse Water Quality Monitoring

The final water quality monitoring events were performed on December 17 and 19 upstream and downstream of the Akin Powerhouse. The monitoring began in mid-October and was performed an average of once per week to assess potential changes in water quality during a wide range of start-up and testing procedures for the powerhouse. Results indicate that Akin Powerhouse operations had negligible effects on South Fork American River water quality conditions during the monitoring periods.

SWPPP measures are in place and inspections are being performed as required.

## \*Powerhouse Update:

EID is operating the powerhouse between 16 to 18mw. Currently we are operating both units 24 hours a day, while we perform further testing.

# \*Canal

The flows in the canal are being regulated by A-12 requirements for minimum fish flows. Fish life this month per the settlement agreement is 110cfs at A-12, beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>. Current flows in canal are ranging between 125-135cfs. The canal is being patrolled on a daily basis and there have been no major problems found which would prevent the canal to be filled to its capacity. SCADA is being manned 24 hours a day to insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal. Further automation of the Diversion Structure is planned to control A-12 (Fish Release's) and A-11 (canal flows).

EID is continually working on its automation to control the Diversion Structure at the intake to regulate the float controller to allow EID to satisfy the A-12 minimum flow requirements and place balance of water in the canal at A-11. This will allow EID to operate with much tighter flows, maximizing generation production. Mead & Hunt continues to provide engineering support on the remaining tasks to be completed at intake.

It was determined by Carlton Engineering that additional vertical drilling would need to be done on the Canal Bench to measure water levels with in the berm on slide 6 & 7. This will be accomplished using a small hand held unit. The additional drilling was completed February 10 along with SWPPP.

EID is in the preliminary stages of beginning work on the Hazel Creek Tunnel. Access road and site clearing is scheduled to begin February 9, 2004, with burning of brush scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2004. This project is expected to be in progress between February 9 though October 31, 2004, at which time EID expects to be completed.

EID has received all its project signs and will be installing these new EID signs throughout our Project 184. The lakes will receive new signage this spring when the snow melts. Ice warning signs have been posted at Lakes to warn fisherman of changing lake levels.

#### **Tributary flows:**

Esmeralda and Ogilby are not being utilized in canal, as of this report; however if bypass flows are above minimums EID will utilize the water as needed.

#### Echo Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

# Caples Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized. ICE warning sign have been posted at lakes, warning fisherman of changing lake levels. EID plans to draw Caples Lake down as required to prevent early spill. Planned release's for Caples creek this week are 18cfs due to increased runoff.

#### Silver Lake

The radial gates are in the full open position and will remain this way From November 1 to April 1 inclusive. Facilities have been winterized.

#### Lake Aloha

Lake Aloha is shut down for the winter, which is the normal operating pattern.

A visit was made October 29, 2003 to Lake Aloha.

Staff 5.64 = 29.5 AF

A trip was made to Pyramid Creek (A-40) on January 29, Staff Reading 1.72=12.9cfs. A trip was made to Echo Lake the week of January 19<sup>th</sup> but readings could not be taken due to the amount of snow on the staff. Everything appears to be normal.

# Listed below are the Projects readings for March 8, 2004 Taken from SCADA:

	Staff	Ac. Ft.	Draft
Echo Lake	0	0	0
Echo Conduit	0	0	0
Echo Creek	1.64		8.7 cfs

Caples Lake	37.60	9,261	18 cfs.
Silver Lake	3.43	914	12.7 cfs.
Pyramid Creek	0	0	0

There is 134.9cfs @ A-11 being released into the canal at Intake and 139 cfs flowing in the South Fork of the American River at Intake.

A-17 Forebay Storage 3796.82 = 289 AF A-18 EID Irrigation Usage is .46 = 5.84 cfs.

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